



Nursing Students' Attitudes About Domestic Violence During the COVID-19 Quarantine Period

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Abstract: Objective: To identify nursing students' attitudes about domestic violence for the period of the COVID-19 quarantine period .

Methods: Random stratified sample of (120 students) they were taken from the total (510 students) studying in college of nursing at university of Thi-Qar. The subject includes both male and female. After did all consents from college of nursing and university, participant's consent also was taken, data were collected by self-report method by using approved questionnaire from the period of the 5th April to the 20th of April 2021.

Results: Results of the current study showed that study sample have aged between (19 -22), the participants gender (55%) of them were female, and (45%) were male and nursing students' attitude about the situational blame factor was 55.0% approval. nursing students' attitude about the perpetrator blame factor was 73.3% approval.

Conclusion: Results of the current demonstrated that more students (55%) have attitude about the situational blame factor, and (73.3%) of nursing students had attitude about the perpetrator blame factor. The novel Coronavirus spread has created a uncountable of problems for the societies to deal with. A vaccine absence and actual treatment for it, the quarantines that imposed by governments to diminish the extension of it, also, that lead to a inconsistency of social isolation, that comprises matters like economic insecurity, mental health complications, and isolation.

Key words: Nursing students, domestic violence, COVID-19.

Introduction

The domestic violence consist of physical assault, purposive intimidation, sexual beating and other rude activities like portion of a regular pattern of control and power committed by one close mate to other. Domestic violence comprises psychological violence, emotional mistreatment, physical violence, and sexual violence,. The incidence and harshness of domestic violence differ theatrically; also the constant part of domestic violence is one partner's continuous efforts to uphold control and power above his spouse.(1)

There are many definitions of domestic violence, as said by the WHO, domestic violence can be defined as the purposeful use of physical force or force, threatened or actual, against a woman, also resulting in injury or having a high probability of resulting in injury. poor development, psychological harm, death, and social withdrawal. Domestic violence always viewed as a family problem and a patterns of abusive and coercive behavior, which may cause psychological, emotional distress and physical injury .(2)

Intimate-partner-violence is a sexual or physical violence, stalking and emotional abuse. It usually affects women at any ages and lead to women death. Also it can be occur for men about a third lower cruelty. People who have experienced intimate-partner-violence are at high risk of developing several physical health conditions and psychiatric disorders .(3)

Violence against women is endemic in societies in the all world, cutting across age, race, religious , national boundaries and class.(4)

Through victimization or witnessing, exposure of children and adolescents to violence by adults within the family is detrimental to mental and physical health and can be associated with depression, anxiety, eating disorders, smoking, substance use, poor general health and suicidal ideation. (5)

The literature show that children and women at high risk, while disabled people and elderly suffering from neglect rottenly, as a abuse's victim in the relationship, anyone can be .(6)

Several behaviors which aimed to over control other person compromised domestic violence purview. mostly, the perpetrator does not had from a diagnosed psychiatric disorders. conversely, in cases where the abuser have a form of psychiatric condition, the restrictions resulting in the pandemic which used as an reason to taking psychotropic drugs or evade psychological support..(7)

Through this pandemic, domestic violence, suicide, mental disorders, depressive disorders, anxiety are already spread worldwide. The anxious situation of COVID-19 lead the world apparent by its destructive feature in several spaces. (8)

A situation of Lockdown in which the victim cannot move out of the home to have appropriate help and is more likely to be cut off from their normal support systems. There is raised proof that domestic violence play as an pragmatic infection that grow in the pandemic's situations.(9)

Because of the mass quarantines that generates by worldwide , hard income loss, and uncertainty, experts have warned that all of these conditions could increase stress and abuse in homes where violence already exists or was imminent.(10)

Methodology

This chapter presents the research design that is used in current study. It includes the sample selection, methods of data collection, and data analysis.

Design of the Study

A descriptive cross-sectional study was conducted at University of Thi-Qar , College of Nursing from the period of the 5th April to the 20th of April 2021.

Sample of the Study

Random stratified sample of (120 students) they were taken from the total (510 students) studying in college of nursing at university of Thi-Qar. The subject includes both male and female. After did all consents from college of nursing and university, participant's consent also was taken, data were collected by self-report method by using approved questionnaire after an review of the literature and related studies from the period of the 5th April to the 20th of April 2021 .

Data Collection

The demographic characteristic were obtained through a direct interview with each students in the study used, adopted and developed questionnaire format. the data collection process had been performed for the period from 5 April 2021 until 20 April 2021.

Statistical Data Analysis

The following approaches of statistical data analysis were used to analyze the data of the study through using (spss-26) and Microsoft excel 10

Descriptive Data Analysis:

This analysis was performed through the computation of the following :

1. frequencies (F)/ sample size ` 120
2. percentages (%)
3. Graphic:
 - Pie- chart
 - Bar chart
4. Mean of score (MS)

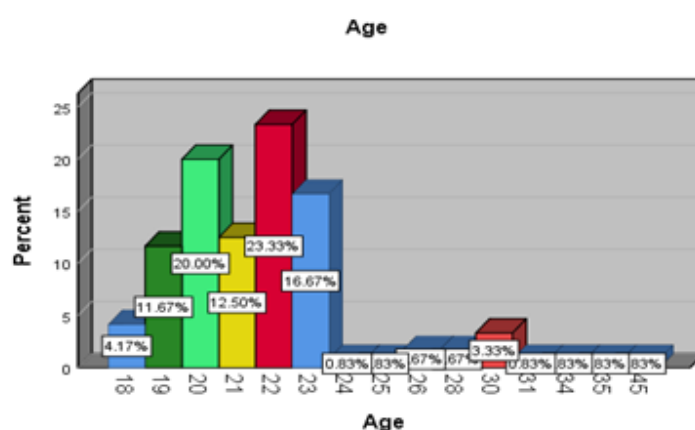
The measure in the present study was based on cutoff point (0.66) due to the three points like scales with three levels including: Low(1-1.66), moderate(1.67-2.33), and high(2.34-3.00)

Domestic Violence Blame Scale (DVBS) , some self-constructed questions were also added .(28)

Table (1): Reliability Coefficients of Study instrument (Polite and Hungler, 1999) (11)

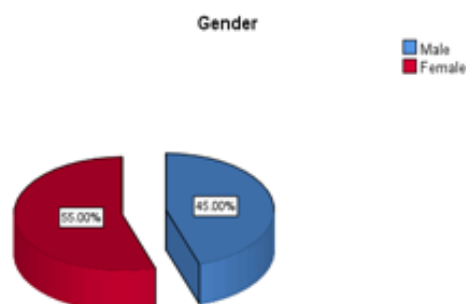
Results of study

Figure (1) demonstrate the age of participants



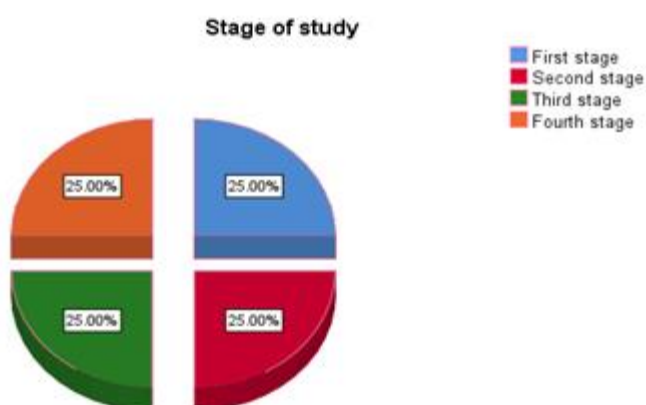
This figure show most study sample have age between (19 – 22) years

Figure (2) show the participant's gender



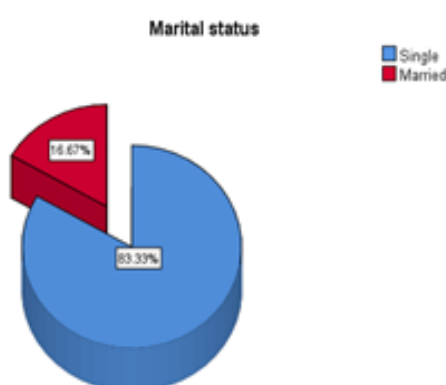
This figure show that (55%) of study participants were female, and (45%) were male

Figure (3) participants distribution depending on stage of study



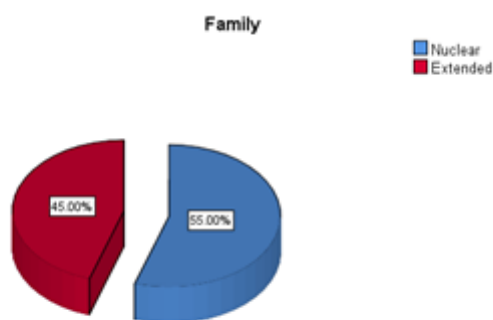
This figure show that participants distributed equally among the four stages of study

Figure (4) marital status of participants



This figure show that (83.33) of participants were single

Figure (5) show participants family type



This figure show that (55%) of study participants lives in nuclear family

Table (2) demonstrate attitude of study participants about domestic violence

N	Items	R	F	%	M.S	L
1.	The extent of violence in the media today severely impacts a husband to physically assault his wife	Disagree	3	2.5	2.61	H
		Agree	41	34.2		
		Agree strongly	76	63.3		
2.	Domestic violence is the result of the wife being considered the husband's private property in our society	Disagree	11	9.2	2.49	H
		Agree	39	32.5		
		Agree strongly	70	58.3		
3.	A husband who physically assaulted his wife must be imprisoned	Disagree	6	5.0	2.68	H
		Agree	26	21.7		
		Agree strongly	88	73.3		
4.	A husband who attacks his wife is ill or mentally disturbed	Disagree	2	1.7	2.62	H
		Agree	42	35.0		
		Agree strongly	76	63.3		
5.	Domestic violence can mainly be attributed to the distinguishing characteristics of the spouse's personality	Disagree	12	10.0	2.23	M
		Agree	69	57.5		
		Agree strongly	39	32.5		
6.	The wife is the one who provokes the husband, which leads him to physically abuse her	Disagree	56	46.7	1.68	L
		Agree	46	38.3		
		Agree strongly	18	15.0		
7.	Domestic violence is the product of a male-dominated society	Disagree	14	11.7	2.42	H
		Agree	41	34.2		
		Agree strongly	65	54.2		
8.	Wives encourage domestic violence through bad judgment, provoking the anger of the husband, and so on	Disagree	38	31.7	1.87	M
		Agree	60	50.0		
		Agree strongly	22	18.3		
9.	Wives are physically assaulted by their husbands because	Disagree	92	76.7	1.30	L

	they deserve it	Agree	20	16.7		
		Agree strongly	8	6.7		
10.	Domestic violence can be avoided when a wife tries hard to please her husband	Disagree	30	25.0	2.03	M
		Agree	56	46.7		
		Agree strongly	34	28.3		
11.	Domestic violence is more likely to occur in unstable families	Disagree	9	7.5	2.33	M
		Agree	63	52.5		
		Agree strongly	48	40.0		
12.	Domestic violence is more likely to occur in families with loose personal relationships	Disagree	15	12.5	2.29	M
		Agree	55	45.8		
		Agree strongly	50	41.7		
13.	A husband's addiction to alcohol and drugs causes domestic violence	Disagree	5	4.2	2.76	H
		Agree	19	15.8		
		Agree strongly	96	80.0		
14.	Domestic violence occurs because society accepts it in marriage	Disagree	22	18.3	2.18	M
		Agree	54	45.0		
		Agree strongly	44	36.7		
15.	Domestic violence is more likely to occur in poor neighborhoods or bad areas	Disagree	27	22.5	2.12	M
		Agree	52	43.3		
		Agree strongly	41	34.2		
16.	As the pressure on the husband increases, the possibility of domestic violence increases	Disagree	15	12.5	2.20	M
		Agree	66	55.0		
		Agree strongly	39	32.5		
17.	Domestic violence is more likely to occur in families who are socially isolated from society	Disagree	23	19.2	2.15	M
		Agree	56	46.7		
		Agree strongly	41	34.2		
18.	Husbands who physically abuse their wives cannot control their violent behavior	Disagree	19	15.8	2.17	M
		Agree	61	50.8		
		Agree strongly	40	33.3		
19.	Husbands who physically assaulted their wives had aggressive dominant fathers who also participated in domestic violence	Disagree	27	22.5	2.20	M
		Agree	42	35.0		
		Agree strongly	51	42.5		
20.	Wives exaggerate the physical and psychological effects of domestic violence	Disagree	56	46.7	1.67	M
		Agree	48	40.0		
		Agree strongly	16	13.3		
21.	In our society, the husband has the right to hit his wife in his home	Disagree	65	54.2	1.66	L
		Agree	31	25.8		
		Agree strongly	24	20.0		
22.	Husbands physically abuse their wives because this	Disagree	52	43.3	1.84	M

	indicates his manhood in our society	Agree	35	29.2		
		Agree strongly	33	27.5		
23.	Domestic violence does not affect many people	Disagree	48	40.0	1.78	M
		Agree	50	41.7		
		Agree strongly	22	18.3		
24.	When a man is violent it is because he has lost control of his temper	Disagree	13	10.8	2.22	M
		Agree	68	56.7		
		Agree strongly	39	32.5		
25.	If a woman continues to live with a man who beats her, she is guilty of being beaten again	Disagree	20	16.7	2.27	M
		Agree	48	40.0		
		Agree strongly	52	43.3		
26.	Some women subconsciously want a husband to control them	Disagree	42	35.0	1.86	M
		Agree	53	44.2		
		Agree strongly	25	20.8		
27.	A lot of domestic violence happens because the women keep arguing about things with their husbands	Disagree	32	26.7	1.91	M
		Agree	67	55.8		
		Agree strongly	21	17.5		
28.	Most domestic violence includes mutual violence between spouses	Disagree	13	10.8	2.15	M
		Agree	76	63.3		
		Agree strongly	31	25.8		
29.	Abusive men lose control so much that they don't know what to do	Disagree	15	12.5	2.28	M
		Agree	57	47.5		
		Agree strongly	48	40.0		
30.	I hate to say it but if the woman stays with the man who offended she is worth what she gets	Disagree	22	18.3	2.25	M
		Agree	46	38.3		
		Agree strongly	52	43.3		
31.	Domestic violence rarely happens in my neighborhood	Disagree	29	24.2	1.95	M
		Agree	68	56.7		
		Agree strongly	23	19.2		
32.	A woman can avoid physical abuse if she gives in sometimes	Disagree	45	37.5	1.83	M
		Agree	51	42.5		
		Agree strongly	24	20.0		
33.	I don't have much sympathy for a battered woman who keeps returning to her abuser	Disagree	33	27.5	2.08	M
		Agree	45	37.5		
		Agree strongly	42	35.0		
34.	Most women incite domestic violence	Disagree	48	40.0	1.83	M
		Agree	44	36.7		
		Agree strongly	28	23.3		
35.	The quarantine due to Covid 19 has led to an increase in	Disagree	11	9.2	2.51	H

	the rate of domestic violence	Agree	37	30.8		
		Agree strongly	72	60.0		
36.	The economic crisis caused by the quarantine led to an increase in domestic violence	Disagree	6	5.0	2.56	H
		Agree	41	34.2		
		Agree strongly	73	60.8		
37.	Social media helped spread domestic violence by reporting bad news during the quarantine period	Disagree	9	7.5	2.49	H
		Agree	43	35.8		
		Agree strongly	68	56.7		

**R=Responses; F= Frequency; %= Percent; M.S =mean of score; L= Level; L=Low ;
M=Moderate; H= High**

Ass.= Assessment Cut-off-point: 1-1.66 =Low; 1.67-2.33= Moderate; 2.34-3.00 = High H= High ;

M= Moderate; L= Low

This table shows that items (1,2,3,4,7,13,35,36,37) have a high mean of scores, and items (6,9,21) have a low mean of scores

Discussion

Figure (1) demonstrate study sample according to age The most study sample have aged between (19 - 22) Because the majority of Nursing College students are between this age range.

Figure (2) show the participants gender ‘This figure show that (55%) of study participants were female, and (45%) were male , because the College of Nursing accepts female students more than males from the students who apply to enroll it.

Figure (3) participants distribution depending on stage of study . This figure show that participants distributed equally among the four stages of study and this is to ensure that the largest number of students' opinions are taken from the four stages of the College of Nursing .

Figure (4) marital status of participants , This figure show that (83.33) of participants were single because of the young ages of the students, as well as the economic situation of some young people.

Figure (5) show participants family type , This figure show that (55%) of study participants lives in nuclear family because the nuclear family is almost considered the optimal social unit and adaptable to financial changes at this time

Nursing students' attitude about the situational blame factor was 55.0% approval. Nursing students' attitude about the perpetrator blame factor was 73.3% approval. Nursing students' attitude about the society blame factor was 54.2% approval. Nursing students' attitude about the victim blame factor was 40.0% approval. Nursing students' attitude about the character blame factor was 57.5% approval. Nursing students' attitude about the behavioral blame factor was 80.0% approval. Nursing students' attitude about the quarantine blame factor was 60.0% approval. Nursing students' attitude about the economical blame factor was 60.8 % approval. Nursing students' attitude about the social media blame factor was 56.7% approval. Nursing students' attitude about the minimize blame factor was 56.7% approval.

According to these results, we note that the attitudes of students of College of Nursing had high approval rates that the perpetrator and economic factors played a major role in increasing domestic violence during the quarantine period, as the percentages of approval reached (73.4%, 60.8%) for these

factors, and that perhaps It is related to problems and disorders related to the perpetrator or the aggressor, as well as the many economic crises that people suffered during the quarantine period of Covid 19 . We also note that the highest approval rate (80.0%) was due to the behavior factor, meaning that the majority of nursing students agreed that this The factor plays an important and significant role in domestic violence, which is represented by the husband's bad temper, extreme nervousness, extreme miserliness, the weak character of the husband, as well as the consumption of amounts of alcohol and drugs. Several studies have concluded that alcohol does not cause domestic violence .Rather, it is seen as a contributing factor to the perpetration of domestic violence It can severely affect a person's physical and cognitive performance, reducing self-control and thus making a person unable to resort to nonviolence. Thus, the results of this study are consistent with Akshaya Krishnakumar & Shankey Verma in a study prepared in 2021, which states "Understanding Domestic Violence in India During COVID-19: a Routine Activity Approach".(13)

Conclusion

Current study results demonstrated that more than half of the students (55%) have attitude about the situational blame factor, and (73.3%) of nursing students had attitude about the perpetrator blame factor. The absence of a vaccine and real treatment for COVID-19, the quarantines that imposed by governments to decrease the spread of it, also, that lead to social isolation, that contain issues as economic insecurity, isolation and mental health complications. The Coronavirus spread has led to several problems for the societies to deal with.

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